(c) whether similar studies are being considered for other NTC subsidiaries?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No. Sir.

Purchase of Zinc from abroad by MMTC

754. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of zinc directly negotiated and purchased by MMTC from abroad annually during the last three years;

(b) whether such purchasss have been made at the minimum price prevailing during the years; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) Purchases are made through direct negotiations only from Rupee Payment Countries. Quantities and value of zinc so purchased for the last three years are given below:

Year	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value (Rs crores)
1985-86	11,900	13.63
1986-87	14,350	15.43
1987-88	24,625	30.10

(b) and (c) Since it is not possible to forecast the minimum prices which are likely to prevail during the year, imports are made based on prevalent international market prices depending upon our requirements and domestic production levels.

International Trade

755. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that other developing countries are taking vigorous steps to promote their international trade by projecting their image aggressively;

(b) if so, what steps are being contemplated to project India's image abroad more aggressively; and

(c) whether Government are considering any major change in their strategy with respect of international trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) to (c) It is accepted that all countries, including developing countries, take steps to project their technological and industrial achievements and capabilities to promote tneir trade. India has also been taking several steps in this direction. These include organisation and participation in general as well as specialised trade fairs and exhibitions, contact promotion programmes, visits of trade delegations, Joint Business Councils, buyer-seller meets, promotional programmes through departmental stores abroad and publicity through various media projecting India's economic and technological capabilities and achievements. As a part of our changing strategy to promote exports, a series of other initiatives have also been taken to generate surpluses for exports, to induce the production of goods contemporary in technolobgy and competitive in prices and to make exports profitable.

Representation from ex-Andaman Political Prisoners fraternity Circle, New Delhi

756. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a memorandum dated 26th